



MILITARY
CHILDREN
ON THE MOVE

MILITARY
FAMILIES

DEPLOYED
SOLDIERS

Strength of Soldiers
comes from the strength of their Families.

Strength of Families
is supported by the strength of the community.

SURVIVING
SPOUSES

WOUNDED WARRIORS
ACTIVE-GUARD-RESERVE



**COMMUNITY
COVENANT**
supporting those who serve



"I want to say this to all of you: You have done everything that has been asked of you. The United States of America is proud of you. I'm proud to be your Commander-in-Chief....Your families will always be a priority of Michelle's and mine, and remain on our hearts and on our minds. And when our service members do return home, it will be to an America that always welcomes them home with the care that they were promised."

*President Barack Obama
To Military Members and their Families
The White House, July 4, 2009*



Overview

- Community Covenant is a formal commitment of support by state and local communities to Soldiers and their Families – Active, Guard and Reserve.
- Community Covenant fosters and sustains effective state and community relationships to improve the quality of life for Soldiers and their Families
- Tailored to the local level, covenant signing ceremonies recognize the strength of Soldiers, their Families, and the support of the local community
- Allows the sharing of local programs to assist communities find ways to support, and for Soldiers and Families to find access to additional programs
- It is an Army program that includes recognition of all Service Members and their Families
- Program launched April 17, 2008 with a signing ceremony in Columbus, Georgia, with the Fort Benning community



Community Covenant Signing Ceremonies

Since the program's inception in 2008, over 450 covenants have been signed in 48 states, 3 territories and the District of Columbia



North Dakota League of Cities – all cities are signing Community Covenants (accounting for 235 of the ceremonies)



Supporting Soldiers and their Families

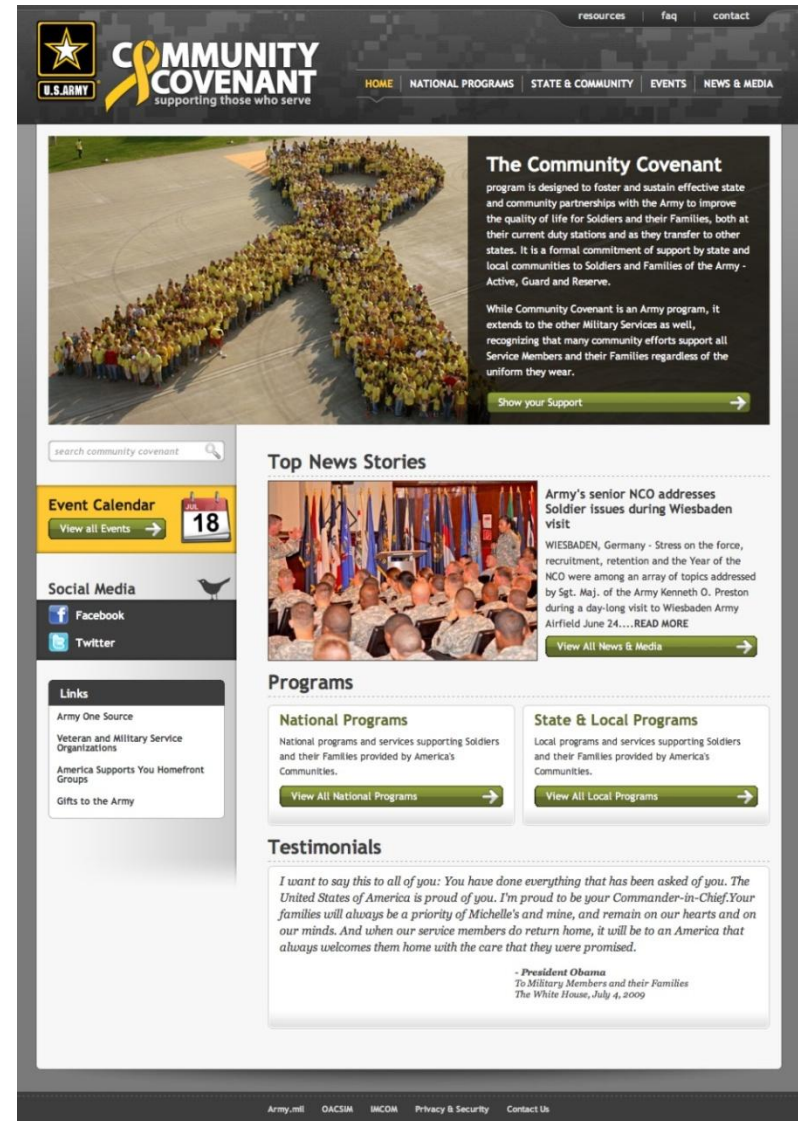
- Community-based programs assist communities find ways to support, and help Soldiers and Families find access to additional programs
- These programs and services are identified at the national level, state level, and local level (outside Army installations)
- Criteria for inclusion in Community Covenant is based on the needs of Soldiers and their Families
- Programs are categorized for ease of finding and sharing (family, financial, educational, deployed, employment, etc.)
- Programs support all Service Members, not just Army Soldiers
- Communities are encouraged to identify any known programs so they may be shared with Soldiers and other communities



www.army.mil/community

- National Programs and Services
- State/Local Programs & Initiatives
- Event Calendar
- Social Media Links
- Covenant Inspired News
- Resources
- Frequently Asked Questions

Web Site





Impact

Community Covenant – An Enduring and Necessary Program

- Helps fill gaps and provide alternatives to Army services
- Finds new programs to support geographically dispersed Soldiers and Families (not near military installations)
- Links community support to specific Soldier/Family needs
- Programs help lessen stress of daily hassles and some chronic stressors
- Community support is a key cog in support network to build resilience



"I try to encourage every American to either call their National Guard unit, or their Army unit, or Marine unit in their area, and say what can I do to help? What that means is that when the families at home are taken care of, our soldiers can then concentrate and focus on the job they're supposed to do."

Dr. Jill Biden

NBC "Today" Show

New York City, June 4, 2009

www.army.mil/community



For More Information

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